

Selected Biography of Bettye J. Gardner, Ph.D.

Bettye J. Gardner is Professor of History at Coppin State University. Dr. Gardner received her B.A. and M.A. degrees in History from Howard University and her Ph.D. from George Washington University. She has been Project Director and/or Consultant for a variety of Humanities projects and has chaired National Conferences including the Smithsonian Conference on Historically Black Colleges. Her articles have appeared in The Journal of Negro History, The MD Historical Magazine, The Negro History Bulletin, and Southern Studies, and she has contributed essays in the following books: The State of Afro-American History, Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia, the Encyclopedia of African American Education, and the Encyclopedia of Blacks in Business, and The State of Black Baltimore; and has lectured extensively on 19th Century African American Communities with a special focus on Baltimore's Free Black Community. Dr. Gardner has presented papers at national conferences of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, the Organization of American Historians, the American Historical Association and at regional conferences on Baltimore History and African Americans in the Civil War.

In November 2006, she was Program Chair of "In Vogue: Black Culture and Identity in the Jazz Age, a Symposium on the African American Presence in American Public Life". The Symposium was a project of the Humanities Council of Washington, DC in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Gardner is a former president and currently member of the Executive Council of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History and is a board member of the Humanities Council of Washington, DC. She also serves as a Commissioner of the Mary McLeod Bethune Archives and Museum, the Congressional Task Force on Slave Labor in Washington, DC (a Congressional Appointment), and recently served on the Maryland State Department of Education's Panel of Scholars (a Curriculum Project with the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History and Culture).

Her most recent honors include: the John Blassingame Award (Southern Historical Association) in 2004 for her scholarly work and her mentoring of African American students; the Outstanding Educator Award (Baltimore Chapter, Howard University Alumni Association) in 2005; and the Bethune Service Award (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) in 2006. At

Coppin State University she currently serves on the Honors Council and is chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee for the School of Arts and Sciences.